Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Martin H. Nygaard was born in Turner County, South Dakota, on July 10, 1914, the son of August, a Norwegian immigrant carpenter/farmer and Bertha Clovning Nygaard, a first generation Norwegian-American; and,

Whereas, Birthdays commemorate the first day of our lives, and we celebrate the birthdays of those we love as we recognize the joys and sorrows we have shared, the strength we have gained from the obstacles and hardships we have conquered, and the small daily pleasures life offers; and,

Whereas, Martin H. Nygaard began to farm two quarter sections of land in the Hurley, South Dakota, area at the age of 14 with the help of four horses; and,

Whereas, Martin married Lavonne Jeanette Gossman on September 20, 1938, and continued to farm in Turner County during his 44 years of marriage to his beloved wife and mother of their three sons and one daughter; and,

Whereas, Martin was President and a Director of the South Dakota State Pork Show of Viborg, South Dakota, in the 1960s and has contributed so much to the agricultural heritage of South Dakota and continues to contribute to the agricultural future of South Dakota; and,

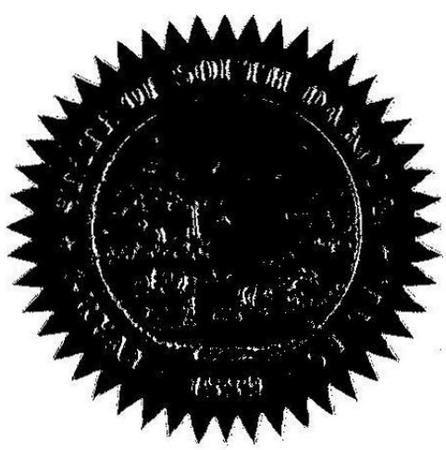
Whereas, In August 2003, at the age of 89, Martin contacted the West Nile Virus while working on his 700-acre farm. He was successful in overcoming the deadly disease, and now will celebrate his 90th birthday on July 10, 2004, with more than 75 years of continuous farming in Turner County; and,

Whereas, Martin will observe his 90th Birthday with all the good wishes, fanfare, and celebration such a milestone warrants, as his friends and relatives gather to honor him and celebrate his life and the camaraderie of the day; and it is fitting and proper for the Governor to make note of this milestone in the life of a man who has lived an exemplary life for all to emulate:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim July 10, 2004, as

MARTIN H. NYGAARD DAY

in South Dakota, and I join all his friends and relatives in wishing him a very happy birthday, good health, and great happiness.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Thirtieth Day of June in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State